

In the Specification:

Amend various locations as follows:

On page 1, following the Title, add the following section:

RELATED U.S. APPLICATION

This is a divisional application of a copending application of the same title having Serial No. 10/287,864, filed November 6, 2002.

Amend the paragraph extending from page 7, line 35 through page 8, line 10 as follows:

With continuing reference to FIG. 1A, radiation beam 14B is directed by optical system 20 onto substrate surface 62 along axis A1. In an example embodiment, optical system 20 focuses radiation beam 14B to form an image 100 on substrate surface 62. The term "image" is used herein ~~in~~ to generally denote the distribution of light formed on substrate surface 62 by radiation beam 14B. Thus, image 100 does not necessarily have an associated object in the classical sense. Further, image 100 is not necessarily formed by bringing light rays to a point focus. For example, image 100 can be an elliptical spot formed by an anamorphic optical system 20, as well as a circular spot formed a normally incident, focused beam formed from a circularly symmetric optical system. Also, the term "image" includes the light distribution formed on substrate surface 62 by intercepting beam 14B with substrate 60.

Amend the paragraph on page 11 between lines 23 and 35 as follows:

FIG. 2C is a cross-sectional view of an example embodiment of a converter/optical system 160 having a converter 150 that converts radiation beam 14A with a Gaussian profile P1 into radiation beam 14A' with a flat-top (i.e., uniform) profile P2, and an optical system 20 that forms a focused radiation beam 14B and a line image 100. Converter/focusing system 160 of FIG. 2C includes cylindrical lenses L1 through L5. Here, "lenses" can mean individual lens elements or a group of lens elements, i.e., a lens group. The first two cylindrical lenses L1 and L2 act to shrink the diameter of radiation beam 14A, while cylindrical lenses L3 and L4 act to expand the radiation beam back to roughly its original size but with a modified radiation beam profile 14A' caused by spherical aberration in the lenses. A fifth cylindrical lens L5 serves as optical system 20 and is rotated 90° relative to the other lenses so that its power is out of the plane of the figure. Lens L5 forms radiation beam 14B that in turn forms line image 100 on substrate 60.

Amend the paragraph extending from page 11, line 26 through page 19, line 1 as follows:

Accordingly, in an example embodiment, apparatus 10 includes a pre-aligner 376 coupled to controller 70 via a line 378. Pre-aligner 376 receives a substrate 60 and aligns it to a reference position P_R by locating reference feature 64, such as a flat or a notch, and moving (e.g., rotating) the substrate until the reference feature aligns with the select direction to optimize processing. A signal 380 is sent to controller 70 when the substrate is aligned. The substrate is then delivered from the pre-aligner to chuck 40 via a substrate handler 386, which is in operative communication with the chuck and pre-aligner 376. Substrate handler 386 is coupled to controller 70 via a line 388 and is controlled via a signal 390. Substrate 60 is then placed on chuck 40 in a select orientation corresponding to the orientation of the substrate as pre-aligned on pre-aligner 376.